

08/961,956

August 27, 2001

E. Cont *7* -2-
claimed in Claim 56 substantially as herein described or
exemplified.--

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REMARKS

SEP 6 2001

TC 1700

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SEP 4 2001
TC 1700

This response cancels currently pending Claim 97 and adds new Claim 109. Upon amendment, the above-identified application will have one independent claim (currently pending Claim 56) and 53 total claims (currently pending Claims 56-96 and 98-108 and new Claim 109). The Applicants are herewith paying for up to three independent claims and 53 total claims.

Support for new Claim 109 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed specification.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance for the reasons of record. Allowance of the application at an early date is solicited.

This response cancels currently pending Claim 97 and adds new Claim 109. The cancellation and addition described in the preceding sentence were done to claim the scope of the invention that the Applicants are entitled to claim and were not necessarily done to overcome the prior art. The cancellation and addition described in the first sentence of this paragraph shall not be considered necessary to overcome the prior art.

The Applicants reserve the right to seek protection for any